

Bob Strickland
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Via ECFS
Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

**Re: In the Matter of Petition of USTelecom for Forbearance Pursuant to
47 U.S.C. Section 160(c); WC Docket No. 18-141; Category 1**

Dear FCC,

We live in a Rural, Wooded, Hilly area in the Santa Cruz mountains and depend on AT&T phone and DSL coupled with Cruzio ISP service. The only choice for internet access is from the TV Cable company or AT&T. We choose AT&T because when trees come down in storms (often in the winter) we are without power for days at a time. During these power outages, the cable is dead. AT&T has backup power and provides phone and DSL during power outages. Due to the hilly terrain, there isn't any cell phone coverage. Without AT&T Phone (Land-line) with DSL we would be isolated and unable to call for emergency services (fire, medical, police, etc.).

DO NOT ALLOW AT&T to curtail independent internet providers from leasing circuits.

Thank you

Bob Strickland